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14 June 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Colonel White and Dr. A. Ross Eckler,
Director, Bureau of the Census, on 14 June 1966

1. Colonel White called to say that Mr. Helms would be glad to go over to Commerce and talk with Secretary Connor if the Secretary has any questions concerning the NIS Program. He suggested that I get this information to the Director of the Bureau of the Census, which I agreed to do.

2. I then called Dr. Eckler, Director of the Bureau of the Census and told him that our Deputy Director, Richard Helms, would be willing to meet with Secretary Connor if the Secretary feels that he has questions concerning the NIS work which we are asking the Bureau of the Census to undertake. Dr. Eckler was interested and said that he first planned to talk with his Assistant Secretary, Bill Shaw, on Thursday morning and then probably with Secretary Connor after that. He felt that Mr. Helms' presence at a session with Shaw and Connor would be helpful. He will get in touch with me to arrange the meeting.

3. Dr. Eckler went on to say that his own view concerning the Bureau's taking over this NIS work was that it is substantially different from the type of work that they are now doing and are supposed to be doing, but that he was not opposed to having the Bureau "drafted" to perform an essential service for the Government.

4. He asked if I had tried to get other agencies to take over this responsibility and I reported that an attempt had been made to have the Department of State accept the job but they were not interested. He asked if the Department of Labor had been asked, and I said that it had not because we felt that the Bureau of the Census' mission was more related to this kind of sociological work than the Department of Labor.

5. He reported that there are a number of problems to be worked out if Census undertakes the additional NIS work, namely space, providing administrative services, and slots for the additional people.

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JAMES A. BRAMMELL
Director of Basic Intelligence

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cc: Ex.Dir-Comptroller
ADDI

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